



National  
Multiple Sclerosis  
Society  
Michigan Chapter

October 16, 2015

The Honorable Mike Shirkey, Chair  
Senate Health Policy Committee  
Michigan Senate  
P.O. Box 30036  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536

Dear Senator Shirkey:

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Michigan supports SB 502, a bill to amend the False Claims Act. We encourage the Senate Health Policy Committee to support the bill when it comes before the committee.

Individuals with multiple sclerosis (MS) face costs for medical services required to receive some treatments that delay progression of MS, depending on the treatment best suited to their condition. These service costs can be hundreds or thousands of dollars annually depending on insurance copays and deductibles. Some manufacturers offer patient assistance programs to help deter the cost to the individual; however, it is currently not possible for manufacturers to provide assistance for the cost of medical services in Michigan. The passage of SB502 will make it possible for Michigan residents with MS to benefit from patient assistance programs for medical services.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input to the discussion of SB502. We appreciate your commitment to improving health care access and services for all people in Michigan. If you have any questions you can reach our chapter staff at (517) 339-6002.

Sincerely,

Ruth Linnemann  
Advocacy and Programs Director

Leonard Bertin, Chairperson  
Government Relations Committee

cc: Senate Health Policy Committee Members